

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister had written to the Minister for Agriculture to provide assistance to integrated co-operative credit structure of Andhra Pradesh, out of the Co-operative Rehabilitation and Development Fund; and

(d) if so, the action taken on that request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Task Force constituted by the Government of India under the chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Capoor, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India to study the functioning of the Cooperative Credit System and suggest measures for its strengthening has recommended for the establishment of a Cooperative Rehabilitation and Development Fund in NABARD.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Government has been apprised of the position that the Cooperative Rehabilitation and Development Fund has not yet been established.

Import of Breeding Stock for Poultry Industry

4589. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to import breeding stock, particularly stock for poultry industry;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to safeguard the Indian poultry industry; and

(d) what are the steps taken by Government to prevent import of diseases like Alavian Lemkoria Virus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Government of India is allowing import of breeding stock for poultry

industry. In order to safeguard the Indian poultry industry, the imports of pureline breeding stock, parent level breeding stock and hatching eggs of chicken and ducks are in the restricted list and are allowed on merit on the recommendations of this Department. Only G.P. stock is freely importable.

(d) To prevent the import of diseases like avian leucosis virus, the Government has specified Veterinary Health requirements for the importation of poultry into the country, which is strictly followed.

MSP for pulses and oilseeds

4590. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pulses and oilseeds are two products in which self-sufficiency has not been achieved;

(b) whether in order to encourage farmers, Government are considering payment of a Minimum Support Price (MSP); and

(c) if so, what are the details of this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government already fixes each season the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various oilseeds and pulses and authorizes the NAFED, the designated central nodal agency to undertake price support operations of pulses and oilseeds in the event of prices falling below the MSP level. The MSPs fixed for the 2000-01 crop of various pulses and oilseeds are as under:

<i>Rs. per quintal</i>	
Commodity	Minimum Support Price
1	2
Arhar	1200
Moong	1200
Urad	1200
Gram	1100